

Reply to Office Action dated January 15, 2009

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are currently pending in the present application. All pending claims are subject to restriction as indicated in the Office Action.

The Restriction Requirement:

In the Office Action, the Examiner requires the election of a single invention from among the following four allegedly separate and distinct inventions:

- Group I (claims 1-23, 27, and 28), drawn to a polymer that is conjugated and contains at least one covalently bonded metal complex and an electroluminescent arrangement containing such a polymer;
- Group II (claims 24 and 25), drawn to a process for preparing polymers wherein the process comprises complexing iridium (III), platinum (II), osmium (II), or rhodium (III) precursor complex with an uncomplexed ligand polymer;
- Group III (claim 29), drawn to a process of producing an electroluminescent arrangement wherein the process comprises applying a polymer from a solution; and
- Group IV (claim 26), drawn to a “use” of a polymer as described in Group I.

Provisional Election with Traverse:

In the event the Examiner maintains the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action despite consideration of the traversal remarks which follow, Applicants provisionally elect, *with traverse*, the claims of **Group I** (claims 1-23, 27, and 28) for prosecution on the merits. Additionally, with respect to the requirement for the election of a single disclosed species, Applicants provisionally elect, *with traverse*, and solely for the purpose of initial searching, a polymer having a structure of general formula C (species (iv)), wherein (1) Ar¹ is a 9,9'-dialkylfluorenyl-residue, as exemplified in Example 3 on page 54 of the present specification, (2) L is a 4-fluorenyl-2-pyridine, as exemplified in Example 8 on page 57 of the present specification, and (3) M is iridium (III). Finally, in an effort to provide as complete a

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response as possible, Applicants believe that claims 1-23, 27, and 28 read on the elected species.

Traversal of the Requirement:

Applicants respectfully *traverse* the Examiner's Requirement for Restriction on the ground that simultaneous examination of Groups I, II, III, and IV, as set forth in the Office Action, would present no undue search burden on the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully submit that Restriction is improper and request simultaneous examination of all claims on the merits.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 13077-00114-US, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: February 17, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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